

COMMENT FORM

Public Scoping Meetings

We need your input. Please take a few minutes to provide your comments or questions for the USDA RUS Federal Environmental Impact Statement process and return your completed form today or mail by June 29, 2009. Your comments help in the planning and implementation of the project. **Thank you.**

Completing this form will automatically add you to our mailing list. If you prefer to not be on the mailing list, please check the box below.

☐ I do not wish to be on the project mailing list

Which meeting did you attend? Wanamingo, MN

Please check the following issues that are important to you for transmission line siting.

- ☒ Project Purpose and Need
- ☒ Visual / Aesthetic resources
- ☒ Proximity to residences
- ☒ Land use (agriculture, residential, recreation)
- ☒ Water resources (floodplains, river crossings)
- ☒ Biological resources (wildlife habitat, raptors)
- ☒ Historic and cultural sites
- ☒ Radio or television interference
- ☒ Noise
- ☒ Health and safety
- ☐ Other: _____

What additional key issues should be addressed when assessing the potential impacts of this project?

- I-177-003 #1 Is this the best solution to the supposed increase in demand for power. Are there better alternatives?
- I-177-001 #2 Use established right of ways instead of creating new ones and opening a new corridor through rural agricultural communities that will receive limited use from this project

Hampton • Rochester • La Crosse 345 kV Transmission Project

I-177-001

Your comment has been noted. The criteria used to route the transmission line is described in the Macro Corridor Study which is available on the RUS website at:

<http://www.usda.gov/rus/water/ees/eis.htm>. These criteria and routing process will be addressed in the Draft Environmental Impact Statement. The project is still in the development and planning stages and the utilities have not yet permitted a route for the transmission line.

The Draft Environmental Impact Statement will be available on the RUS website at: <http://www.usda.gov/rus/water/ees/eis.htm>. Comments on the Draft Environmental Impact Statement will be solicited after its publication.

If you own property in one of the proposed corridors, please indicate all the existing uses of your property below:

☐ Agriculture ☒ Residential ☐ Conservation Easement
☐ Commercial ☐ Industrial ☐ Other: _____

Please describe any special uses or circumstances on your property that should be considered when assessing the Project. Please indicate the location of your property.

Location: Section 28 Twp 110 Range 18 in Holden Township, Goodhue County, Minnesota.

We own a little over 3.25 acres with a woods to the South and farmland to the east and west.

There is an abundance of wildlife in the area. Early routes showed lines on all three sides of our property.

In your opinion, what are the most sensitive resources (biological, cultural, recreational, ect.) in the Project area and why?

I-177-007 | I'm concerned about all aspects. We live in a township striving to remain agricultural and our family farms.
I-177-008 | I'm concerned for the farmers trying to farm around the poles and in close proximity to the lines.
I-177-009 | I'm concerned about potential health dangers to people and wildlife and other animals.
I-177-010 | I'm concerned about the aesthetics of the area and about interference of radio and television signals. Also, I'm concerned about property values if this project comes through our area.
I-177-011 |

In your opinion, was the project description, purpose, and need for the project adequately explained? If not, what additional information is needed?

I-177-002 I'm not sure the information provided
explains the need for this project. Data showing
increased demand is provided by power companies,
I-177-004 however, that data is also being disputed. Our
State has mandates involving renewable energy
I-177-005 but this project relies on coal and there is a
loss of energy when it is transmitted over great
I-177-006 distances. I do not want to see a new
Corridor opened up through our area.

Please tell us how to reach you.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Name: Annette Peters
Representing (Optional): _____
Mailing Address: 2719 450th St
City: Kenyon State: MN Zip Code: 55944
Daytime Phone (Optional): _____

Public participation for the Federal, Minnesota, and Wisconsin permitting processes will be ongoing for the Hampton-Rochester-La Crosse 345 kV Transmission Project. If you sign up for the mailing list, you will be notified when opportunities to participate are being planned.

Please plan to continue your involvement in the process and provide your comments. We appreciate your input.

I-177-002

Your comment has been noted. The Draft Environmental Impact Statement will describe, in detail, project purpose and need. The justification document which has been accepted by the RUS is the Alternative Evaluation study which is available at:
<http://www.usda.gov/rus/water/ees/eis.htm>.

I-177-003

Your comment has been noted. Alternatives to the project will be addressed in the Draft Environmental Impact Statement.

I-177-004

Your comment has been noted. Alternatives to the project will be addressed in the Draft Environmental Impact Statement.

I-177-005

Your comment has been noted. Alternatives to the project will be addressed in the Draft Environmental Impact Statement.

I-177-006

Your comment has been noted. The criteria used to route the transmission line is described in the Macro Corridor Study which is available on the RUS website at:
<http://www.usda.gov/rus/water/ees/eis.htm>. These criteria and routing process will be addressed in the Draft Environmental Impact Statement. The project is still in the development and planning stages and the utilities have not yet permitted a route for the transmission line.

I-177-007

Your comment has been noted. Potential impacts to agricultural resources will be addressed in the Draft Environmental Impact Statement.

I-177-008

Your comment has been noted. Potential impacts to human and livestock health and safety will be addressed in the Draft Environmental Impact Statement.

I-177-009

Your comment has been noted. Potential impacts to human and livestock health and safety will be addressed in the Draft Environmental Impact Statement.

I-177-010

Your comment has been noted. Potential impacts to the aesthetic quality of the areas surrounding the transmission line will be addressed in the Draft Environmental Impact Statement.

I-177-011

Your comment has been noted. Interference with electrical equipment caused by the transmission lines will be addressed with individual landowners if the problem arises.

I-177-012

Your comment has been noted. Socioeconomic impacts to property values affected by the transmission line will be addressed in the Draft Environmental Impact Statement.